

Listing of the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:
 - receiving a plurality of communications from at least one of a first plurality of business contexts on the network, wherein the business contexts include a virtual space with an associated shared purpose, wherein decisions are made in the virtual space to further the purpose;
 - transmitting the plurality of communications, and actions associated with the communications, to at least one of a second plurality of business contexts on the network;
 - receiving a plurality of responses to the communications from at least one of the second plurality of business contexts; and
 - receiving at least one link between at least one of the plurality of responses and at least one of the plurality of communications from at least one of the second plurality of business contexts, wherein the at least one of the plurality of responses facilitates further specifying an aspect of said at least one of the first plurality of business contexts or said at least one of the second plurality of business contexts;

wherein at least one of the communications and the responses includes at least one subject matter of the at least one of the communications and the responses.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting the plurality of requirements, the plurality of responses, and the at least one link to at least one of the first plurality of business contexts.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of communications is organized as nodes in a first hierarchical tree structure and the plurality of responses is organized as nodes in a second hierarchical tree structure.
4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 [[4]], wherein users ~~is~~ are assigned a security level that determines if the user may view, edit, or delete a node and information included therein.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 [[4]], wherein users ~~is~~ are assigned to at least one node so the user may (1) add, delete, and edit information included in the at least one node, and (2) add, delete, and edit at least one child node to the at least one node and information included in the at least one child node.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the communications and the responses includes at least one of: an input to the at least one of the communications and the responses, and an output from the at least one of the communications and the responses.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the communications and the responses includes a security level that determines which users may view the at least one of the communications and the responses.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the communications and the responses includes identifications of users that may (1) add, delete, and edit information included in the at least one of the communications and the responses, and (2) add, delete, and edit at least one child communication or response to the at least one of the communications and the responses and information included in the child communication or response.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the communications and the responses includes at least one of: a description of at least one risk, a description of at least one mitigation, and a link between at least one risk and at least one mitigation.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the communications and the responses includes at least one of: a labor cost, a material cost, and a duration.
15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the communications and the responses includes at least a narrative.
16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the communications and the responses includes at least a document relevant to the communication.
17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the communications and the responses includes a task associated with at least one of the business contexts.
18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the communications and the responses includes a milestone associated with at least one of the business contexts.
19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the communications and the responses includes a information associated with at least one of the business contexts.
20. (Canceled)
21. (Canceled)
22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first plurality of business contexts and the second plurality of business contexts overlap.
23. (Previously Presented) A computer storage medium encoded with at least:
 - a module capable of maintaining contexts and links between contexts created by implicit or explicit communications between contexts;
 - a plurality of requirements for a context created by a first party;
 - a plurality of responses to the requirements from a second party, wherein the plurality of responses facilitate modification of the plurality of requirements by the first party; and
 - at least one link between at least one of the plurality of responses and at least one of the plurality of requirements created by the second party.

24. (Original) The medium of claim 23, wherein the plurality of requirements is organized as nodes in a first hierarchical tree structure and the plurality of responses is organized as nodes in a second hierarchical tree structure.

25. (Original) The medium of claim 24, wherein the first hierarchical tree structure is defined by the first party.

26. (Original) The medium of claim 24, wherein the second hierarchical tree structure is defined by the second party.

27. (Original) The medium of claim 23, wherein at least one of the requirements and the responses includes at least one of: an input to the at least one of the requirement and the responses, and an output from the at least one of the requirements and the responses.

28. (Original) The medium of claim 23, wherein at least one of the requirements and the responses includes a security level that determines which users may view, edit, or delete the at least one of the requirements and the responses.

29. (Original) The medium of claim 23, wherein at least one of the requirements and the responses includes identifications of users that may (1) add, delete, and edit information included in the at least one of the requirements and the responses, and (2) add, delete, and edit at least one child requirement or response to the at least one of the requirements and the responses and information included the at least child requirement or response.

30. (Original) The medium of claim 23, wherein at least one of the requirements and the responses includes at least one of: a description of at least one risk, a description of at least one mitigation, and a link between at least one risk and at least one mitigation.

31. (Original) The medium of claim 23, wherein at least one of the requirements and the responses includes a task of the project.

32. (Original) The medium of claim 23, wherein at least one of the requirements and the responses includes a milestone of the project.

33. (Original) The medium of claim 23, wherein at least one of the requirements and the responses includes a specification of the project.

34. (Original) The medium of claim 33, wherein the specification includes at least one of: a technical specification, a contract, and a business rule.

35. (Original) The medium of claim 23, wherein at least one of the requirements and the responses includes at least one of: a deliverable item and a procured item for the project.

36. (Previously Presented) A graphical user interface in a computer for creating, editing, interacting with, and automating a business function, the graphical user interface displaying:

- a first list including metadata associated with a business context arranged as nodes in a first hierarchical tree structure, wherein the metadata facilitates decision-making associated with the business context; and
- a second list including interactions with the requirements arranged as nodes in a second hierarchical tree structure, wherein the interactions facilitate adjustment of the metadata by a requirement development team.

37. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 36, further comprising a third list including at least one interaction from the second list linked to at least one requirement from the first list.

38. (Original) The graphical user interface of claim 37, further comprising a status of compliance between the third list and the linked at least one requirement.

39. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 37, further comprising a description of the at least one interaction in the third list.

40. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 37, wherein the link between the at least one interaction and the at least one requirement indicates that the at least one interaction is directed to meet the at least one requirement.

41. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 36, wherein at least one of the requirements and interactions is a task, a milestone, a component specification, a deliverable, or a procurement.

42. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 36, further comprising a graphical representation of a link between at least one requirement from the first list and at least one interaction from the second list linked.

43. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 36, further comprising a security level required for a user to view, edit, or delete one of the requirements and the interactions and information therein.

44. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface of claim 36, further comprising a user assigned to (1) add, delete, and edit information included in the at least one of the requirements and the interactions, and (2) add, delete, and edit at least one child requirement or interaction to the at least one of the requirements and the interactions and information included in the at least child requirement or interaction.

45. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method, comprising:

- receiving one or more elements of a business context from a first party;
- receiving a selection of an element of the business context from a second party;
- receiving a message concerning the selected element from the second party; and
- saving in a database table a record including (1) the message, (2) an identification of the message as a first key to the record, and (3) an identification of the selected element as a second key to the record.

46. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, wherein the first record further includes (1) an identification of another message being responded to, if any, and (2) an identification of a third party to receive the message.

47. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 46, further comprising:

- detecting the presence of the third party; and

transmitting a hierarchical tree of the business context to the third party, wherein the selected element is distinguished by one or more visual cues including underscore, color, and shading.

48. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 46, further comprising:
detecting the presence of the third party; and
transmitting the message to the third party.

49. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 48, further comprising loading information related to the selected element into memory.

50. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 48, further comprising sending an email to the third party to notify the receipt of the message.

51. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, further comprising saving in the database table a security level for the selected element that determines which parties may view the selected element received from the second party.

52. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, further comprising saving in the database table an identification of an individual that may (1) add, delete, and edit information included in the selected element, and (2) add, delete, and edit a child element to the selected element and information included in the child element, received from the second party.

53. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, further comprising saving in the database table data contained in a datasheet of an item related to the selected element received from the second party.

54. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, further comprising saving in the database table an identification of a risk received from the second party.

55. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 54, further comprising saving in the database table an identification of a mitigation received from ~~the~~ a third party.

56. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 55, further comprising saving in the database table a link between the risk and the mitigation.

57. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method comprising:
receiving a selection of an element of a business context from a first party;
receiving messages in a conference concerning the selected element from one or more parties; and
saving in a database table a record including (1) the messages, (2) an identification of the conference as a first key to the record, and (3) an identification of the selected element as a second key to the record.

58. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 57, further comprising:
receiving a selection of the conference by a second party;
transmitting a hierarchical tree of the business context to the second party, wherein the selected element is distinguished by one or more visual cues including underscore, color, and shading.

59. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 58, further comprising transmitting the message to the second party.

60. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 58, further comprising loading information related to the selected element into memory.

61. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 57, further comprising saving in the database table a security level for the selected element that determines which parties may view the selected element.

62. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 57, further comprising saving in the database table an identification of an individual that may (1) add, delete, and edit information included in the selected element, and (2) add, delete, and edit a child element to the selected element and information included in the child element.

63. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 57, further comprising saving in the database table data contained in a datasheet of an item related to the selected element.

64. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 57, further comprising saving in the database table an identification of a risk.

65. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 64, further comprising saving in the database table an identification of a mitigation.

66. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 65, further comprising saving in the database table a link between the risk and the mitigation.

67. (Previously Presented) A computer storage medium encoded with at least:

- a first field comprising an identification of an element of a business context;
- a second field comprising an identification of one of a first group consisting of: a risk to the element, issues, milestones, and decisions;
- a third field comprising an identification of one of a second group consisting of: a mitigation to the risk, action items, deliverables, and asserted decisions; and
- a fourth field comprising a link between the one of the first group and one of the second group.

68. (Original) The medium of claim 67, wherein the first record further comprises a criticality level of the risk.

69. (Previously Presented) A computer storage medium encoded with at least:

- a first field comprising an identification of an element of a business context;
- a second field comprising a security level for viewing the element; and
- a third field comprising an identification of an individual that may (1) add, delete, and edit information included in the element, and (2) add, delete, and edit a child element to the element and information included in the child element.

70. (Original) The medium of claim 69, further encoded with a fourth field comprising a level of responsibility of the individual.

71. (Previously Presented) A computer storage medium encoded with at least:

- a first field comprising an identification of a message as a first key to a record;
- a second field comprising an identification of an element of a business context as a second key to the record; and
- a third field comprising the message.

72. (Original) The medium of claim 71, wherein the message includes a content of an online conference.

73. (Original) The medium of claim 71, wherein the message includes emails.

74. (Original) The medium of claim 71, further comprising a third field of an identification of another message being responded to, if any.

75. (Original) The medium of claim 71, further comprising a third field of an identification of a party to receive the message.

76. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method comprising receiving from a first business context a linkage between a response and a requirement, wherein said requirement includes an element of a second business context to be implemented and said response includes a proposal to implement the requirement.

77. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 76, further comprising receiving from said first business context said response.

78. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 76, further comprising receiving from said first business context said requirement.

79. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 76, wherein each of said response and requirement includes a human language description of a vision of said second business context.

80. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 76, wherein at least one of said requirement and said response includes at least one of: a labor cost, a material cost, and a duration.

81. (Previously Presented) A graphic user interface including:

- a first list of descriptions of risks associated with a business context;
- a second list of description of mitigation of at least a group of said risks;
- a plurality of linkages, each linkage connecting one of said mitigations to one of said risks within the business context.

82. (Original) The interface of claim 81, wherein said first list is associated with at least one requirement or response in a project.

83. (Original) The interface of claim 82, further including a third list of requirements arranged as nodes in a hierarchical tree.

84. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the communications are implicit or explicit.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the business contexts are fed by content, knowledge, and decisions to further the purpose.

86. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising linking said one of the first plurality of business contexts or said one of the second plurality of business contexts to a third business context, wherein the third business context carries definitions.

87. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the communication is selected from the group consisting of: an identification of a risk, a mitigation for a risk, a proposed action item, an issue to resolve, a deliverable, a milestone, an agenda for a meeting, a meeting, and start-end dates.

88. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the communications and the responses includes a request for information associated with at least one of the business contexts.

89. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the communications and the responses includes financial and cost information.